



General Assembly

January Session, 2015

Raised Bill No. 6831

LCO No. 4013



Referred to Committee on COMMERCE

Introduced by:
(CE)

***AN ACT STREAMLINING THE STATE ECONOMIC STRATEGIC PLAN
AND THE REPORTING REQUIREMENTS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF
ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 32-1m of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2015*):

3 (a) Not later than February [1, 2006, and annually thereafter] first,
4 annually, the Commissioner of Economic and Community
5 Development shall submit a report to the Governor and the General
6 Assembly, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a. Not later
7 than thirty days after submission of the report to the Governor and the
8 General Assembly, said commissioner shall post the report on the
9 Department of Economic and Community Development's web site.
10 Said report shall include, but not be limited to, the following
11 information with regard to the activities of the Department of
12 Economic and Community Development during the preceding state
13 fiscal year:

14 [(1) A brief description and assessment of the state's economy
15 during such year, utilizing the most recent and reasonably available
16 data, and including:

17 (A) Connecticut employment by industry;

18 (B) Connecticut and national average unemployment;

19 (C) Connecticut gross state product, by industry;

20 (D) Connecticut productivity, by industry, compared to the national
21 average;

22 (E) Connecticut manufacturing activity;

23 (F) Identification of economic and competitive conditions affecting
24 Connecticut's industry sectors, problems resulting from these
25 conditions and state efforts to address the problems;

26 (G) A brief summary of Connecticut's competitiveness as a place for
27 business, which shall include, but not be limited to, an evaluation of (i)
28 how the programs and policies of state government affect the state
29 economy and state business environment, (ii) the ability of the state to
30 retain and attract businesses, (iii) the steps taken by other states to
31 improve the competitiveness of such states as places for business, and
32 (iv) programs and policies the state could implement to improve the
33 competitiveness of the state in order to encourage economic growth;
34 and

35 (H) Any other economic information that the commissioner deems
36 appropriate.

37 (2) A statement of the department's economic and community
38 development objectives, measures of program success and standards
39 for granting financial and nonfinancial assistance under programs
40 administered by the department.]

41 [(3)] (1) An analysis of the economic development portfolio of the
42 department, including:

43 (A) A list of the names, addresses and locations of all recipients of
44 the department's assistance;

45 (B) The following information concerning each recipient of such
46 assistance: (i) Business activities, (ii) standard industrial classification
47 codes or North American industrial classification codes, (iii) [number
48 of full-time jobs and part-time jobs at the time of application, (iv)
49 number of actual full-time jobs and actual part-time jobs during the
50 preceding state fiscal year, (v)] whether the recipient is a minority or
51 woman-owned business, [(vi)] (iv) a summary of the terms and
52 conditions for the assistance, including the type and amount of state
53 financial assistance [,] and job creation or retention requirements, [and
54 anticipated wage rates, (vii)] (v) the amount of investments from
55 private and other nonstate sources that have been leveraged by the
56 assistance, [(viii) the extent to which employees of the recipient
57 participate in health benefit plans offered by such recipient, (ix) the
58 extent to which the recipient offers unique economic, social, cultural or
59 aesthetic attributes to the municipality in which the recipient is located
60 or to the state, and (x)] and (vi) the amount of state investment;

61 (C) A portfolio analysis, including [(i)] an analysis of the wages paid
62 by recipients of financial assistance [, (ii) the average portfolio wage,
63 median portfolio wage, highest and lowest portfolio wage, (iii)
64 portfolio wage data] by industry; [, and (iv) portfolio wage data by
65 municipality;]

66 (D) An investment analysis, including (i) total portfolio value, (ii)
67 total investment by industry, (iii) portfolio dollar per job average, and
68 (iv) portfolio leverage ratio; [, and (v) percentage of financial assistance
69 which was provided to high performance work organizations in the
70 preceding state fiscal year ;] and

71 (E) An overview of the job creation and retention programs

72 administered by the department and an analysis of [the] their
73 estimated economic [effects of the department's economic
74 development investments] impact on the state's economy. [, including
75 (i) contribution to gross state product for the total economic
76 development portfolio and for any investment activity occurring in the
77 preceding state fiscal year, (ii) direct and indirect employment created
78 by the investments for the total portfolio and for any investment
79 activity occurring in the preceding state fiscal year, (iii) productivity of
80 recipients of financial assistance as a result of the department's
81 investment occurring in the preceding state fiscal year, (iv) directly or
82 indirectly increased property values in the municipalities in which the
83 recipients of assistance are located, and (v) personal income.]

84 [(4)] (2) An analysis of the community development portfolio of the
85 department, including:

86 (A) A list of the names, addresses and locations of all recipients of
87 the department's assistance;

88 (B) The following information concerning each recipient of such
89 assistance: (i) Amount of state investment, (ii) a summary of the terms
90 and conditions for the department's assistance, including the type and
91 amount of state financial assistance, and (iii) the amount of
92 investments from private and other nonstate sources that have been
93 leveraged by such assistance; and

94 (C) An investment analysis, including (i) total active portfolio value,
95 (ii) total investments made in the preceding state fiscal year, [(iii) total
96 portfolio by municipality, (iv) total investments made in the preceding
97 state fiscal year categorized by municipality, (v)] and (iii) total
98 portfolio leverage ratio. [, and (vi) leverage ratio of the total
99 investments made in the preceding state fiscal year; and]

100 [(D) An analysis of the estimated economic effects of the
101 department's economic development investments on the state's
102 economy, including (i) contribution to gross state product for the total

103 portfolio and for any investment activity occurring in the preceding
104 state fiscal year, (ii) direct and indirect employment created by the
105 investments for the total portfolio and for any investment activity
106 occurring in the preceding state fiscal year, (iii) productivity of
107 recipients of financial assistance as a result of the department's
108 investment occurring in the preceding state fiscal year, (iv) directly or
109 indirectly increased property values in the municipalities in which the
110 recipients are located, and (v) personal income.

111 (5) A summary of the department's economic and community
112 development marketing efforts in the preceding state fiscal year, a
113 summary of the department's business recruitment strategies and
114 activities in such year, and a summary of the department's efforts to
115 assist small businesses and minority business enterprises in such year.]

116 [(6)] (3) A summary of the department's international trade efforts
117 in the preceding state fiscal year, and, to the extent possible, a
118 summary of foreign direct investment that occurred in the state in such
119 year.

120 [(7) Identification of existing economic clusters, the formation of
121 new economic clusters, the measures taken by the commissioner
122 during the preceding state fiscal year to encourage the growth of
123 economic clusters and the amount of bond funds expended by the
124 department during the previous fiscal year on each economic cluster.

125 (8) (A) A summary of the department's brownfield-related efforts
126 and activities within the Office of Brownfield Remediation and
127 Development established pursuant to subsections (a) to (d), inclusive,
128 of section 32-761 in the preceding state fiscal year, except for activity
129 under the Special Contaminated Property Remediation and Insurance
130 Fund program. Such efforts shall include, but not be limited to, (i) total
131 portfolio investment in brownfield remediation projects, (ii) total
132 investment in brownfield remediation projects in the preceding state
133 fiscal year, (iii) total number of brownfield remediation projects, (iv)

134 total number of brownfield remediation projects in the preceding state
135 fiscal year, (v) total of reclaimed and remediated acreage, (vi) total of
136 reclaimed and remediated acreage in the preceding state fiscal year,
137 (vii) leverage ratio for the total portfolio investment in brownfield
138 remediation projects, and (viii) leverage ratio for the total portfolio
139 investment in brownfield remediation projects in the preceding state
140 fiscal year. Such summary shall include a list of such brownfield
141 remediation projects and, for each such project, the name of the
142 developer and the location by street address and municipality and a
143 tracking of all funds administered through or by said office;

144 (B) A summary of the department's efforts with regard to the
145 Special Contaminated Property Remediation and Insurance Fund,
146 including, but not limited to, (i) the number of applications received in
147 the preceding state fiscal year, (ii) the number and amounts of loans
148 made in such year, (iii) the names of the applicants for such loans, (iv)
149 the average time period between submission of application and the
150 decision to grant or deny the loan, (v) a list of the applications
151 approved and the applications denied and the reasons for such
152 denials, and (vi) for each project, the location by street address and
153 municipality; and

154 (C) A summary of the department's efforts with regard to the dry
155 cleaning grant program, established pursuant to section 12-263m,
156 including, but not limited to, (i) information as to the number of
157 applications received, (ii) the number and amounts of grants made
158 since the inception of the program, (iii) the names of the applicants,
159 (iv) the time period between submission of application and the
160 decision to grant or deny the loan, (v) which applications were
161 approved and which applications were denied and the reasons for any
162 denials, and (vi) a recommendation as to whether the surcharge and
163 grant program established pursuant to section 12-263m should
164 continue.

165 (9) The following information concerning enterprise zones

166 designated under section 32-70:

167 (A) A statement of the current goals for enterprise zones;

168 (B) A statement of the current performance standards to measure
169 the progress of municipalities that have enterprise zones in attaining
170 the goals for such zones;

171 (C) A report from each municipality that has an enterprise zone,
172 which evaluates the progress of the municipality in meeting the
173 performance standards established under section 32-70a; and

174 (D) An assessment of the performance of each enterprise zone based
175 on information collected under subparagraph (C) of this subdivision.

176 (10) With regard to the grant program designated pursuant to
177 sections 32-324a to 32-324e, inclusive, an assessment of program
178 performance.

179 (11) With regard to the fuel diversification program designated
180 pursuant to section 32-324g, an assessment of program performance.

181 (12) An assessment of the performance of the Connecticut qualified
182 biodiesel producer incentive account grant program established
183 pursuant to sections 32-324a to 32-324e, inclusive.

184 (13) An assessment of the performance of the fuel diversification
185 grant program established pursuant to section 32-324g.]

186 [(14)] (4) A summary of the total social and economic impact of the
187 department's efforts and activities in the areas of economic and
188 community development, and an assessment of the department's
189 performance in terms of meeting its stated goals and objectives.

190 [(15) With regard to the Connecticut Credit Consortium established
191 pursuant to section 32-9yy, a summary of the activity of such program,
192 including, but not limited to, the number of loans and lines of credit

193 applied for and approved, the size of the businesses, the amount of the
194 loans or lines of credit, and the amount repaid to date.

195 (16) With regard to the office of the permit ombudsman, established
196 pursuant to section 32-726:

197 (A) The names of applicants for expedited review;

198 (B) The date of request for expedited review;

199 (C) The basis upon which the applicant claimed eligibility for
200 expedited review;

201 (D) State agencies that participated in the permit review process;

202 (E) The dates on which the permit was granted or denied via the
203 expedited review process or the date the applicant was determined not
204 to be eligible for expedited review; and

205 (F) If applicable, the reason the applicant was determined not to be
206 eligible for the expedited review process.]

207 [(17)] (5) With regard to the Small Business Express program
208 established pursuant to section 32-7g, data on (A) the number of small
209 businesses that applied to the Small Business Express program, (B) the
210 number of small businesses that received assistance under said
211 program and the general categories of such businesses, (C) the
212 amounts and types of assistance provided, (D) the total number of jobs
213 on the date of application and the number proposed to be created or
214 retained, and (E) the most recent employment figures of the small
215 businesses receiving assistance.

216 [(18)] (6) With regard to airport development zones established
217 pursuant to section 32-75d, a summary of the economic and cost
218 benefits of each zone and, in consultation with the Connecticut Airport
219 Authority, any recommended revisions to any such zones.

220 (7) An overview of the department's activities related to tourism, the
221 arts and historic preservation.

222 (8) An overview of the department's activities concerning digital
223 media, motion pictures and related production activity, and an
224 analysis of the use of the film production tax credit established under
225 section 12-217jj, the entertainment industry infrastructure tax credit
226 established under section 12-217kk and the digital animation
227 production tax credit established under section 12-217ll, including the
228 amount of any tax credit issued under said sections and the total
229 amount of production expenses or costs incurred in the state by the
230 taxpayer who was issued such a tax credit.

231 (9) A summary of the department's and the office of the permit
232 ombudsman's brownfield-related efforts and activities in the preceding
233 fiscal year.

234 (b) Any annual report that is required from the department by any
235 provision of the general statutes shall be incorporated into the annual
236 report provided pursuant to subsection (a) of this section.

237 Sec. 2. Section 32-1p of the general statutes is repealed and the
238 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2015*):

239 [(a)] With respect to digital media and motion picture activities, the
240 Department of Economic and Community Development shall have the
241 following powers and duties:

242 (1) To promote the use of Connecticut locations, structures, facilities
243 and services for the production and postproduction of all digital media
244 and motion pictures and other media-related products;

245 (2) To provide support services to visiting and in-state production
246 companies, including assistance to digital media and motion picture
247 producers in securing permits from state agencies, authorities or
248 institutions or municipalities or other political subdivisions of the

249 state;

250 (3) To develop and update a resource library concerning the many
251 possible state sites which are suitable for production;

252 (4) To develop and update a production manual of available digital
253 media and motion picture production facilities and services in the
254 state;

255 (5) To conduct and attend trade shows and production workshops
256 to promote Connecticut locations and facilities;

257 (6) To prepare an explanatory guide showing the impact of relevant
258 state and municipal tax statutes, regulations and administrative
259 opinions on typical production activities and to implement the tax
260 credits provided for in sections 12-217jj, 12-217kk and 12-217ll;

261 (7) To formulate and propose guidelines for state agencies for a "one
262 stop permitting" process for matters, including, but not limited to, the
263 use of state roads and highways, the use of state-owned real or
264 personal property for production activities and the conduct of
265 regulated activities, and to hold workshops to assist state agencies in
266 implementing such process;

267 (8) To formulate and recommend to municipalities model local
268 ordinances and forms to assist production activities, including, but not
269 limited to, "one stop permitting" of digital media and motion picture
270 and other production activity to be conducted in a municipality, and to
271 hold workshops to assist municipalities in implementing such
272 ordinances;

273 (9) To accept any funds, gifts, donations, bequests or grants of funds
274 from private and public sources for the purposes of this section;

275 (10) To request and obtain from any state agency, authority or
276 institution or any municipality or other political subdivision of the
277 state such assistance and data as will enable the department to carry

278 out the purposes of this section;

279 (11) To assist and promote cooperation among all segments of
280 management and labor that are engaged in digital media and motion
281 pictures; and

282 (12) To take any other administrative action which may improve the
283 position of the state's digital media and motion picture production
284 industries in national and international markets.

285 [(b) On or before January 1, 2010, and annually thereafter, the
286 Department of Economic and Community Development shall submit
287 to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having
288 cognizance of matters relating to commerce and finance, revenue and
289 bonding, in accordance with section 11-4a, a report on the activities of
290 the department under this section and the estimated direct and
291 indirect economic impact of all digital media, motion pictures and
292 related production activity in the state, during the preceding calendar
293 year. Each such report shall include, but not be limited to, an analysis
294 of the use of the film production tax credit established under section
295 12-217jj, the entertainment industry infrastructure tax credit
296 established under section 12-217kk and the digital animation
297 production tax credit established under section 12-217ll, and shall
298 include a description of each production or project for which a tax
299 credit has been issued, the amount of any such tax credit and the total
300 amount of production expenses or costs incurred in the state by the
301 taxpayer who was issued such a tax credit and any other information
302 that may be requested by a chairperson of the joint standing
303 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
304 relating to commerce and finance, revenue and bonding.]

305 Sec. 3. Section 32-1o of the general statutes is repealed and the
306 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2015*):

307 (a) On or before July 1, 2015, and every four years thereafter, the
308 Commissioner of Economic and Community Development, within

309 available appropriations, shall prepare an economic development
310 strategic plan for the state in consultation with the Secretary of the
311 Office of Policy and Management, the Commissioners of Energy and
312 Environmental Protection and Transportation, the Labor
313 Commissioner, the chairperson of the Culture and Tourism Advisory
314 Committee, the executive directors of the Connecticut Housing
315 Finance Authority and the Connecticut Health and Educational
316 Facilities Authority, and the chief executive officer of Connecticut
317 Innovations, Incorporated, or their respective designees, and any other
318 agencies the Commissioner of Economic and Community
319 Development deems appropriate.

320 (b) In developing the plan, the Commissioner of Economic and
321 Community Development shall:

322 (1) Ensure that the plan is consistent with (A) the text and locational
323 guide map of the state plan of conservation and development adopted
324 pursuant to chapter 297, and (B) the state's consolidated plan for
325 housing and community development prepared pursuant to section 8-
326 37t;

327 [(2) Consult regional councils of governments, regional planning
328 organizations, regional economic development agencies, interested
329 state and local officials, entities involved in economic and community
330 development, stakeholders and business, economic, labor, community
331 and housing organizations;

332 (3) Consider (A) regional economic, community and housing
333 development plans, and (B) applicable state and local workforce
334 investment strategies;]

335 [(4)] (2) Assess and evaluate the economic development challenges
336 and opportunities of the state and against the economic development
337 competitiveness of other states and regions; and

338 [(5) Host regional forums to provide for public involvement in the

339 planning process.]

340 (3) Provide for public input in the development of the plan.

341 (c) The strategic plan required under this section shall include, but
342 not be limited to, the following:

343 (1) A review and evaluation of the economy of the state, [. Such
344 review and evaluation shall include, but not be limited to, a sectoral
345 analysis, housing market and housing affordability analysis, labor
346 market and labor quality analysis, demographic analysis and historic
347 trend analysis and projections] including its strengths;

348 (2) A review and analysis of factors, issues and forces that impact or
349 impede economic development and responsible growth in Connecticut
350 and its constituent regions; [. Such factors, issues or forces shall
351 include, but not be limited to, transportation, including, but not
352 limited to, commuter transit, rail and barge freight, technology
353 transfer, brownfield remediation and development, health care
354 delivery and costs, early education, primary education, secondary and
355 postsecondary education systems and student performance, business
356 regulation, labor force quality and sustainability, social services costs
357 and delivery systems, affordable and workforce housing cost and
358 availability, land use policy, emergency preparedness, taxation,
359 availability of capital and energy costs and supply;]

360 [(3) Identification and analysis of economic clusters that are growing
361 or declining within the state;]

362 [(4)] (3) An analysis of targeted industry sectors in the state that (A)
363 identifies those industry sectors that are of current or future
364 importance to the growth of the state's economy and to its global
365 competitive position, (B) identifies what those industry sectors need
366 for continued growth, and (C) identifies those industry sectors' current
367 and potential impediments to growth;

368 [(5) A review and evaluation of the economic development structure
369 in the state, including, but not limited to, (A) a review and analysis of
370 the past and current economic, community and housing development
371 structures, budgets and policies, efforts and responsibilities of its
372 constituent parts in Connecticut, and (B) an analysis of the
373 performance of the current economic, community and housing
374 development structure, and its individual constituent parts, in meeting
375 its statutory obligations, responsibilities and mandates and their
376 impact on economic development and responsible growth in
377 Connecticut;]

378 [(6)] (4) Establishment and articulation of a vision for Connecticut
379 that identifies where the state should be in [five, ten, fifteen and
380 twenty years] the future;

381 [(7)] (5) Establishment of prioritized, clear and measurable goals and
382 objectives for the state and regions [, to meet the short and long-term
383 goals established under this section and provide] and clear steps and
384 strategies to achieve said goals and objectives; [, including, but not
385 limited to, the following: (A) The promotion of economic development
386 and opportunity, (B) the fostering of effective transportation access
387 and choice including the use of airports and ports for economic
388 development, (C) enhancement and protection of the environment, (D)
389 maximization of the effective development and use of the workforce
390 consistent with applicable state or local workforce investment strategy,
391 (E) promotion of the use of technology in economic development,
392 including access to high-speed telecommunications, and (F) the
393 balance of resources through sound management of physical
394 development;]

395 [(8) Prioritization of goals and objectives established under this
396 section;]

397 [(9)] (6) Establishment of relevant measures that clearly identify and
398 quantify (A) whether a goal and objective is being met at the state,

399 regional, local and private sector level, and (B) cause and effect
400 relationships, and provide a clear and replicable measurement
401 methodology; and

402 [(10)] (7) Recommendations on how the state can best achieve goals
403 under the strategic plan. [and provide cost estimates for
404 implementation of the plan and the projected return on investment for
405 those areas;]

406 [(11)] A review and evaluation of the operation and efficacy of the
407 urban jobs program established pursuant to sections 32-9i to 32-9l,
408 inclusive, enterprise zones established pursuant to section 32-70,
409 railroad depot zones established pursuant to section 32-75a, qualified
410 manufacturing plants designated pursuant to section 32-75c,
411 entertainment districts established pursuant to section 32-76 and
412 enterprise corridor zones established pursuant to section 32-80. The
413 review and evaluation of enterprise zones shall include an analysis of
414 enterprise zones that have been expanded to include an area in a
415 contiguous municipality or in which there are base or plant closures;

416 (12) An assessment of program performance with regard to the
417 development, research and economic assistance matching grant
418 program established pursuant to section 32-345; and

419 (13) Any other responsible growth information that the
420 commissioner deems appropriate.]

421 (d) On or before July 1, [2009] 2015, and every [five] four years
422 thereafter, the Commissioner of Economic and Community
423 Development shall submit [an] the economic development strategic
424 plan [for the state to the Governor for approval. The Governor shall
425 review and approve or disapprove such plan not more than sixty days
426 after submission. The plan shall be effective upon approval by the
427 Governor or sixty days after the date of submission.

428 (e) Upon approval, the commissioner shall submit the economic

429 development strategic plan] prepared pursuant to this section to the
430 joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance
431 of matters relating to commerce, planning and development,
432 appropriations and the budgets of state agencies and finance, revenue
433 and bonding. Not later than thirty days after such submission, the
434 commissioner shall post the plan on the web site of the Department of
435 Economic and Community Development.

436 [(f) The commissioner from time to time, may revise and update the
437 strategic plan upon approval of the Governor. The commissioner shall
438 post any such revisions on the web site of the Department of Economic
439 and Community Development.]

440 Sec. 4. Section 12-263m of the general statutes is repealed and the
441 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2015*):

442 (a) As used in this section: (1) "Eligible dry cleaning establishment"
443 means any place of business engaged in the cleaning of clothing or
444 other fabrics using tetrachlorethylene, Stoddard solvent or other
445 chemicals or any place of business that accepts clothing or other fabrics
446 to be cleaned by another establishment using such chemicals, (2) "gross
447 receipts at retail" means the total amount accruing from dry cleaning
448 services at retail, valued in money, without any deduction for the cost
449 of the materials used, labor or service cost or any other expense, and
450 (3) "eligible applicant" means (A) a business owner or operator of an
451 eligible dry cleaning establishment, or (B) an owner of property that is
452 or that was occupied by an eligible dry cleaning establishment.

453 (b) There shall be paid to the Commissioner of Revenue Services by
454 each dry cleaning establishment a surcharge of one per cent of its gross
455 receipts at retail for any dry cleaning service performed on or after
456 January 1, 1995. Each such establishment shall register with the
457 Commissioner of Revenue Services on forms prescribed by him. Each
458 such establishment shall submit a return quarterly to the
459 Commissioner of Revenue Services, applicable with respect to the

460 calendar quarter beginning January 1, 1995, and each calendar quarter
461 thereafter, on or before the last day of the month immediately
462 following the end of each such calendar quarter, on a form prescribed
463 by the commissioner, together with payment of the quarterly
464 surcharge determined and payable in accordance with the provisions
465 of this section. Whenever such surcharge is not paid when due, a
466 penalty of ten per cent of the amount due or fifty dollars, whichever is
467 greater, shall be imposed, and such surcharge shall bear interest at the
468 rate of one per cent per month or fraction thereof until the same is
469 paid. The Commissioner of Revenue Services shall cause copies of a
470 form prescribed for submitting returns as required under this section
471 to be distributed to persons subject to the surcharge. Failure to receive
472 such form shall not be construed to relieve anyone subject to the
473 surcharge under this section from the obligations of submitting a
474 return, together with payment of such surcharge within the time
475 required. The provisions of sections 12-548 to 12-554, inclusive, and
476 sections 12-555a and 12-555b shall apply to the provisions of this
477 section in the same manner and with the same force and effect as if the
478 language of said sections 12-548 to 12-554, inclusive, and sections 12-
479 555a and 12-555b had been incorporated in full into this section and
480 had expressly referred to the surcharge imposed under this section,
481 except to the extent that any such provision is inconsistent with a
482 provision of this section and except that the term "tax" shall be read as
483 "dry cleaning establishment surcharge". Any moneys received by the
484 state pursuant to this section shall be deposited into the account
485 established pursuant to subsection (c) of this section.

486 (c) There is established an account within the General Fund to be
487 known as the "dry cleaning establishment remediation account". Said
488 account shall contain any moneys required by law to be deposited in
489 the account. Any balance remaining in the account at the end of any
490 fiscal year shall be carried forward in the account for the fiscal year
491 next succeeding. The account shall be used by the Department of
492 Economic and Community Development for grants made to owners or

493 operators of eligible dry cleaning establishments or owners of property
494 on which an eligible dry cleaning establishment has been in operation
495 for at least a year prior to the approval of the application or was
496 previously operated for at least a year prior to such approval.

497 (d) The state, acting through the Commissioner of Economic and
498 Community Development, shall use the dry cleaning establishment
499 remediation account to provide grants to applicants for the purposes
500 of the containment and removal or mitigation of environmental
501 pollution resulting from the discharge, spillage, uncontrolled loss,
502 seepage or filtration of chemical liquids or solid, liquid or gaseous
503 products or hazardous wastes on or at the site of an eligible dry
504 cleaning establishment or for measures undertaken to prevent such
505 pollution which are approved by the Commissioner of Energy and
506 Environmental Protection. In order to qualify for a grant under the
507 provisions of this section an eligible applicant must demonstrate to the
508 satisfaction of the Commissioner of Economic and Community
509 Development that (1) the eligible dry cleaning establishment is using
510 or previously used, tetrachlorethylene or Stoddard solvent or other
511 chemicals for the purpose of cleaning clothes or other fabrics, (2) the
512 eligible dry cleaning establishment has been doing business or did
513 business at the site for a period of at least one year prior to the
514 submission date or approval date of the application for assistance
515 under this section, (3) the eligible dry cleaning establishment or owner
516 of property is not in arrears with regard to any tax levied by the state
517 or any political subdivision of the state and the dry cleaning surcharge
518 imposed by subsection (b) of this section, and (4) the eligible applicant
519 is not in arrears with regard to any tax levied by the state or any
520 political subdivision of the state. Any funds disbursed as a grant under
521 this section shall not be subject to attachment in the satisfaction of any
522 judgment against the recipient of such grant in any civil action.

523 (e) Notwithstanding the terms of any grant made under this section,
524 an eligible applicant shall bear all the costs of such pollution that are
525 less than ten thousand dollars. The Commissioner of Economic and

526 Community Development may provide a grant of up to three hundred
527 thousand dollars to the eligible applicant where the eligible applicant
528 has provided said commissioner with documentation satisfactory to
529 said commissioner that the services for which payment is sought have
530 been or will be completed. No eligible applicant shall receive more
531 than three hundred thousand dollars per eligible dry cleaning
532 establishment. In addition, the account may be used (1) to provide
533 grants to the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection for
534 expenditures made investigating dry cleaning establishments, (2) to
535 provide potable water whenever necessary, and (3) to conduct
536 environmental site assessments.

537 (f) Requests for grants shall be made to the Commissioner of
538 Economic and Community Development. Any eligible applicant
539 seeking a grant shall provide documentation supporting the need for
540 the grant.

541 (g) Any dry cleaning establishment which unlawfully or
542 intentionally discharges or spills any chemical liquids or solid, liquid
543 or gaseous products or hazardous wastes shall not be eligible for a
544 grant from the account.

545 (h) The Commissioner of Economic and Community Development
546 shall establish procedures for distribution of the grants and shall adopt
547 criteria to carry out the provisions of this section. Such criteria shall
548 specify (1) who may apply for grants; (2) how establishments, whether
549 owned or leased, will be determined to be eligible for grants; (3) the
550 costs for which grants may be made; and (4) a method for ensuring
551 timely payment of funds to grant recipients.

552 [(i) The Commissioner of Economic and Community Development
553 shall include in the report required pursuant to section 32-1m an
554 annual report that shall include information as to the number of
555 applications received, and the number and amounts of grants made,
556 since the inception of the program, the names of the applicants, the

557 time period between submission of an application and the decision to
558 approve or deny the grant, which applications were approved and
559 which applications were denied and the reasons for denial. Such report
560 shall further include a recommendation as to whether the surcharge
561 and the grant program established under this section should continue.]

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2015</i>	32-1m
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2015</i>	32-1p
Sec. 3	<i>October 1, 2015</i>	32-1o
Sec. 4	<i>October 1, 2015</i>	12-263m

Statement of Purpose:

To streamline the state economic strategic plan and the annual report by the Department of Economic and Community Development in order to make them clearer and more focused.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]